



File Code: 1920

Date: APR 21 2016

Dear Interested Public:

Last month a public comment period was conducted on desired changes to the monitoring program for the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie's Land and Resource Management Plan. These change were a result of a new requirement published in the USDA Forest Services 2012 Planning Rule – 36 CFR 219. The comment period has concluded and we are ready to finalize.

Two comments were received during the comment period from volunteers asking how this change would affect monitoring that they are personally involved in. We have responded to both individuals letting them know that the final monitoring plan does alter the time required for Midewin to complete a report on monitoring activities from every year to every two years, but is not expected to alter the current monitoring activities conducted by Midewin staff, volunteers and partners. Program Leaders will continue to have the responsibility of informing volunteers and partners of when monitoring is being conducted.

The following documents have been added to our website:

- The previous (old) and final revised versions of the Chapter 6 – Monitoring and Evaluation Plan are now available on the Midewin website at:
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/midewin/home/?cid=FSEPRD494270>

Thank you for your support and interest in the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

Sincerely,

KURTIS E. STEELE
Acting Prairie Supervisor

Enclosures (2)

cc: Jeffrey Tepp

